connects Costa and Deccan Corridors; the investment made on these Corridors is approx. Rs. 20 crores.

(d) Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) in Andhra Pradesh is already operational by two private companies viz., M/s. Tata Cellular Limited and M/s. Bharti Mobile Limited (earlier name M/s JT Mobile Limited) since 11.12.1996 and 20.12.1996 and as per the information provided by Cellular Operators Association of India the number of subscribers is 2,00,624 and 1,85,756 respectively as on 31.10.2001. Licences have also been given to M/s. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited and recently to M/s. Barakhamba Sales and Services Limited for providing CMTS in Andhra Pradesh, these two companies are expected to start their services in the next financial year. It is expected that all the Cellular Licensees together will meet the demand of the customers for new cellular telephone connections.

Waiting List in Almora Telephone Exchange

†1827. MISS FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the installed capacity and the waiting-list of the Jalali and the Daula Telephone Exchanges located in Almora district of Uttranchal;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that hundreds of the applicants belonging to Nirkot village of that district are deprived of telephone connections for the reason that the department has not been able to decide as to which exchange that village must be connected with;

(c) if so, the action being taken against the guilty officers; and

(d) the details of the waiting list of the said village and its affiliated Exchange and by when the telephone connections would be provided to all the applicants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) The

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

information regarding installed capacity and waiting list of Jalali and Daula Telephone exchanges is given below:—

Name of Exchange	Installed Capacity	Waiting List
Jalali	184	0
Daula	152	0

(b) Sir, no registered demand for telephones exist in Nirkot village.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of (b) above.

Competitors in International Long Distance Telephony Sector

1828. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the recent recommendations of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India not to limit the number of competitors in the International Long Distance telephony sector; and

(b) if so, the details of these recommendations and the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The recommendations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) in respect of opening of International Long Distance Service (ILDS) to private sector have been received and accepted by the government. The salient features of the recommendations are enclosed as statement.

Statement

Salient features of the recommendations of the TRAI for opening of International Long Distance Service to private sector.

* There is no restriction on the number of players.
* The applicant company shall have networth of Rs. 25 crores.